ESTABLISHING POLICY FOR ULSTER COUNTY EMPLOYEES WHO DONATE BONE MARROW, ORGANS AND TISSUE

The Personnel / Human Services Committee (Chairman Aiello and Legislators Alfonso, Maloney, Noonan, Kraft, Loughran and Rodriguez) and Legislator Roberti offer the following:

WHEREAS, there are over 83,000 people waiting for life saving organ transplants, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature has designated April as "Donate Life Month" to educate citizens about the importance of organ and tissue donation and to encourage County residents to become organ and tissue donors, and

WHEREAS, as an employer, the County of Ulster recognizes the importance of supporting employees who decide to undergo medical procedures to donate bone marrow or to serve as an organ donor.

RESOLVED, that effective immediately, employees of Ulster County shall be allowed up to seven days paid leave to undergo a medical procedure to donate bone marrow and up to thirty days paid leave to serve as an organ donor, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that an employee of Ulster County shall provide their employer with not less than fourteen days prior written notice to utilize such leave, unless there is a medical emergency, attested to by a physician, which would require the employee to participate in the medical procedure or donation for which the leave is sought within the fourteen day notification period, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this leave shall be in addition to any other sick or vacation leave allowed, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the employer may require verification by a physician for the purpose and length of each leave requested by the employee to donate bone marrow, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, Ulster County will encourage employers in the County to adopt a similar policy to encourage citizens to become organ and tissue donors, and

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FURTHER RESOLVED, that such policy is subject to the approval of Ulster County union organizations,

and moves its adoption.

DEFEATED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 16 NOES: 15

Legislators Bartels, Berardi, Dart, Donaldson, Feldmann, Kraft, Lomita, Loughran, Richard Parete, Robert Parete,

Provenzano, Rodriguez,

Shapiro, Stoeckeler and Zimet

(Absent: Legislators Felicello & DePew)

Legislator Provenzano motioned, seconded by Legislator Lomita to reconsider Resolution No. 131.

MOTION ADOPTED: 29 – 0

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 29 NOES: 0

(Absent: Legislators Felicello & DePew)

Legislator Harris left at 11:17 PM Legislator Every left at 10:53 PM

FINANCIAL IMPACT: UNKNOWN

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